

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 069724

NODIS
FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT LUSAKA 873 ACTION SECSTATE 17 MAR 78

QUOTE

S E C R E T LUSAKA 0873

NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: OVIP (CARTER, JIMMY)
SUBJ: POSSIBLE SUMMIT MEETING IN LAGOS

REF: (A) STATE 67374; (B) STATE 67150

1. I BELIEVE KAUNDA WOULD RESPOND POSITIVELY TO SUGGESTED
LAGOS SUMMIT, ESPECIALLY IF IT WERE CLEAR THAT OTHER
FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS WERE PREPARED TO ATTEND. AS
INDICATED IN HIS LETTER TO PRESIDENT CARTER (REFTEL B),
HE IS NOW PREPARED ONCE AGAIN TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART

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IN SEEKING A RHODESIAN SOLUTION.

2. KAUNDA, ALONG WITH HIS FRONTLINE COLLEAGUES, PROBABLY
WILL SEEK A MEETING WITH THE PRESIDENT AS AN OCCASION
TO PRESS FOR COMMITMENTS BY THE U.S. AND UK TO WITHHOLD
SUPPORT AND RECOGNITION OF THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT AND PURSUE
THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PROPOSALS. THEY ARE LIKELY TO CONCERT THEIR

POSITION IN A FRONTLINE MEETING PRIOR TO THE SUMMIT. THEIR APPROACH WILL EMPHASIZE THAT CONTINUATION OF NEGOTIATIONS SHOULD BE BASED ON THE AAP RATHER THAN AN EFFORT TO BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN THE AAP AND THE INTERNAL SETTLEMENT. THE FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS ALMOST CERTAINLY WILL PRESS THE UK AND US ON THE QUESTION OF HOW SMITH IS TO BE REMOVED AND ON THE COMPOSITION OF THE RHODESIAN MILITARY DURING AN INTERIM PERIOD AND AFTER INDEPENDENCE.

3. A MATTER OF SECONDARY IMPORTANCE TO KAUNDA AND OTHER FRONTLINE PRESIDENTS AT A SUMMIT WOULD BE NAMIBIA. THE FOCUS OF THIS INTEREST WILL DEPEND ON DEVELOPMENTS WHICH TAKE PLACE BETWEEN NOW AND THE SUMMIT. IF POSITIONS ON BOTH SIDES (SWAPO AND SOUTH AFRICAN GOVERNMENT) HAVE NOT HARDENED, IT MIGHT BE POSSIBLE FOR THE PRESIDENT TO SUCCESSFULLY URGE UPON THE FRONTLINE THE NEED FOR SWAPO TO BE FORTHCOMING ON ISSUES SUCH AS TROOP DISPOSITION AND WALVIS BAY.

4. IN TERMS OF ZAMBIAN-US BILATERAL RELATIONS, THE SUMMIT SHOULD BE A NET PLUS, PARTICULARLY AFTER WE HAVE JUST CONFIRMED DATES FOR HIS WASHINGTON STATE VISIT. KAUNDA IS LIKELY TO BE FLATTERED BY THE INVITATION TO MEET WITH THE PRESIDENT WHOM HE GREATLY ADMIRES FOR HIS STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS. THE ACT OF CALLING SUCH A CONFERENCE IS LIKELY TO BE INTERPRETED BY KAUNDA AS TESTIMONY OF THE PRESIDENT'S COMMITMENT TO MAJORITY RULE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA.

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5. IF BILATERALS SHOULD TAKE PLACE, KAUNDA PROBABLY WOULD RAISE ZAMBIA'S URGENT NEED FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE, AND HE MIGHT ASK FOR SOME FORM OF MILITARY ASSISTANCE IF RHODESIAN RAIDS INTO ZAMBIA CONTINUE.

6. IF THE PROSPECTS ARE GOOD THAT A SUMMIT WILL TAKE PLACE, I SUGGEST WE WAIT UNTIL THE INVITATION IS ISSUED BY NIGERIA BEFORE REPLYING TO KAUNDA'S LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT (REFTEL B). THE REPLY SHOULD BE BRIEF AND NONSUBSTANTIVE. IT COULD EXPRESS APPRECIATION TO KAUNDA FOR HAVING SHARED HIS THOUGHTS WITH THE PRESIDENT; AND INDICATE THAT THE PRESIDENT IS LOOKING FORWARD TO CONSULTING FURTHER WITH KAUNDA IN LAGOS ON THE RHODESIAN PROBLEM.

7. IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING MESSAGES ON THE SUMMIT AND CORRESPONDENCE BETWEEN PRESIDENTS CARTER AND KAUNDA BY "EXDIS HANDLE AS NODIS" LABEL. THE TWO NODIS MESSAGES UNDER REFERENCE TOOK OVER TWENTY FOUR HOURS TO ARRIVE IN LUSAKA.

8. DEPARTMENT PASS OTHER ADDRESSEES AS DESIRED.

LOW
UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

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